

106TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. RES. 643

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with regard to Sam Boyden, who admirably notified transportation safety officials of a serious threat to American consumers.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 19, 2000

Mr. LUTHER (for himself, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. PICKERING, Mr. FROST, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. LARGENT, Mr. SHIMKUS, and Mr. OXLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce

---

## RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with regard to Sam Boyden, who admirably notified transportation safety officials of a serious threat to American consumers.

Whereas at least 101 deaths and several hundred injuries in the United States, and unknown numbers of deaths and injuries in other countries, have been attributed to tread separation in ATX, ATX II, and Wilderness AT tires manufactured by Bridgestone/Firestone Inc. (Firestone) and installed on the Ford Motor Company's Explorer and other vehicles;

Whereas in 1998, Sam Boyden conducted highly effective research producing evidence that certain Firestone tires

were associated with a high rate of tread separation, although his position at State Farm Insurance did not require him to conduct such research;

Whereas Sam Boyden voluntarily and without solicitation notified the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of the threat posed to consumers and to the public by tread separation in certain Firestone tires and continued to notify NHTSA of these threats even though NHTSA failed to express interest in the information that he sought to provide;

Whereas Sam Boyden's communications with NHTSA provided important information to NHTSA's investigation of the danger posed to consumers by certain Firestone tires, contributing to NHTSA's eventual decision to compile several thousand reports of tread separation in Firestone tires in the United States;

Whereas Firestone has recalled approximately 14.4 million tires due to manufacturing flaws that cause the tire tread to separate from the tire while the vehicle is in operation; and

Whereas Sam Boyden gave valuable testimony regarding his actions to a joint subcommittee hearing of the Committee on Commerce of the House of Representatives: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) recognizes Sam Boyden for selflessly per-  
3       forming his job far beyond what was required of  
4       him;

1           (2) acknowledges that Sam Boyden's actions set  
2           in motion a series of events that have educated the  
3           public about a serious threat to their safety; and

4           (3) commends Sam Boyden for his outstanding  
5           act of citizenship and for setting an exemplary  
6           standard of conduct for all Americans.

